Opening of a fire station at Ongole.

* 106 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANASWAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation was made to the Government of Madras by the Ongole Municipality authorities to open a fire station at Ongole; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) Government received representations from the Commissioner, Ongole Municipality, in May 1950 and in November 1951. The Commissioner was informed that due to the difficult financial position of the Government, the Government considered that it was not possible to consider the question of opening a fire station at Ongole in the immediate future."

Sri M. NARAYANASWAMY :—" దానికి ఉజ్జాయింపుగా ఎంత ఖర్చు అవుతుందో మంత్రిగారు చెప్పగలరా ?"

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Notice, Sir."

Sri K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" చాల ప్రాంతాలలో ఇళ్ళు తగలబడి జనులు నష్టపడుతున్నారు. అందువల్ల ఆలాంటి ఫైర్ స్టేషన్లు ప్రభుత్వము ఏదో విధముగా డబ్బు చూచుకొని ప్రారంభించడం చాలా అవసరమని ప్రభుత్వము గుర్తిస్తుందా ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Notice, Sir."

Sri C. V. K. RAO :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that in most cases the fire engines operate after the fires are extinguished? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" It has nothing to do with the main question."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" தீ அணைக்கும் நிலையங்களை நகரங்களில் அமைப்பதற்கு என்னென்ன தேவை யென்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவாகள் தெரிவிப்பாரா ? "

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member can put a separate question."

Fire station for Rajampet.

* 107 *Q.*—Sri P. NARASIMHA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government received representations to establish a Fire Service Squad at Rajampet, Cuddapah district, and if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" A representation has been received from Sri P. Narasimha Reddi, M.L.A., for the opening of a fire station at Rajampet. He has been informed that the question of opening a fire station at

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Rajampet can be considered only after fire stations have been opened in the remaining 17 municipal towns in the State in which fire stations should be opened according to the peace-time programme."

Sri P. NARASIMHA REDDI :—" ప్రతి సంవత్సరము ఈ తాలూకాలో గ్రామాలు తగలబడి కాలిపోతూ ఉంటాయి. కావున రాబోవు ఎండకాలము నకు ముందుగానే ఒక ఫైర్ స్టేషను స్థాపిస్తామని మంత్రిగారు హామీ ఇవ్వగలరా? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Notice, Sir."

Sri G. LATCHANNA :—" In view of the fact that nearly 33 villages in Sompeta taluk, Visakhapatnam district, were burnt during the last summer within a period of two months, do the Government feel it necessary to provide similar help in the rural areas also? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" What sort of help does the hon. Member want? I don't think fire engines will help after the fires are extinguished."

Sri G. LATCHANNA :—" Just like the fire stations in the urban areas, will the Government provide similar help to prevent fires in rural parts? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" These fire stations in urban areas are intended to help rural areas also."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether, in view of the fact that in most of the villages the huts are all thatched and are subject to frequent fire accidents, the Government will consider increasing the number of fire stations as also the number of fire engines in the existing stations so that they may be of help to the villages nearby? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir, when our finances improve and when we can spare some money to buy fire engines, we will do so."

Sri T. VISWANATHAM :—" Take us into confidence. We will tell you where to find the money."

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, by donations from hon. Members."

Sri P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" In view of the fact that recently Punganur, Palmaner and Rajampet taluks were subject to frequent fire accidents, will the Government consider opening a fire station at Rajampet? "

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the subject of fire stations comes under my portfolio. I may say that fire engines cost very much and if we make a plan for preventing fires in the rural areas, it would be cheaper to build less inflammable huts than to buy fire engines and employ men to run them."

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SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" Has the Hon. Chief Minister under contemplation any scheme for constructing fire-proof houses and cottages for the villagers? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" That takes us to economic improvement."

Financial aid to dispensaries in panchayats.

* 108 Q.—SRI S. NARAYANAPPA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many panchayats are running dispensaries, either Ayurvedic or Allopathic, in Anantapur district; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to give financial aid to the panchayats where Ayurvedic or Allopathic dispensaries are opened?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Only one panchayat namely, the Uravakonda Panchayat in Anantapur district is running an Ayurvedic dispensary. No panchayat board is running any Allopathic dispensary in that district.

" (*b*) The question of granting financial aid will be considered when requests are received through the appropriate channels."

SRI S. NARAYANAPPA :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether Uravakonda Panchayat has applied for financial aid? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government are not paying subsidy to the medical practitioner there."

SRI D. SEETHARAMIAH :—" ప్రభుత్వమువారు ప్రస్తుతము గ్రామాలలో ఉన్నటువంటి రూరల్ డిస్పెన్సరీలు ప్రైవేటుగా నడపబడుతున్నటువంటి వాటికి గ్రాంటులు ఇస్తారా? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI G. SIVASANKARA REDDI :—" May I know whether any honorarium would be paid to the village vaidyas in rural areas? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir, not by Government."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."

SRI L. LAKSHMANA DAS :—" On a point of order, Sir. Question No. 109 has not been answered."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I told the House that question No. 109 would be taken up on the 24th instant."